Application No.: 10/593,529 Docket No.: 313632002700

## **CLAIM AMENDMENTS**

1. (currently amended): A temperature sensitive polymer having a lower critical solution temperature that changes during incubation in an aqueous solution or medium, which polymer is a homopolymer of a hydrophobically modified hydroxyalkyl(meth)acrylamide or an interpolymer of a hydrophobically modified hydroxyalkyl(meth)acrylamide and up to 50 mole% of comonomers selected from acrylates, methacrylates, acrylamides, methacrylamides, N-vinyl-pyrrolidone, vinyllactates and vinylethers.

- 2. (previously presented): The polymer of claim 1, wherein the polymer comprises a hydrophobic group which is bound to the hydroxyalkyl (meth)acrylamide by a hydrolysable bond.
- 3. (previously presented): The polymer of claim 2, wherein the hydrophobic group is alkyl, aryl, lactic acid or lactic acid oligomer.
- 4. (previously presented): The polymer of claim 3, wherein alkyl is selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl and hexyl.
- 5. (previously presented): The polymer of claim 1, which polymer is a homo or interpolymer of an (N-(2-hydroxyalkyl) (meth)acrylamide lactate).
- 6. (previously presented): The polymer of claim 5, which polymer is selected from the group consisting of homopolymers and interpolymers of (N-(2-hydroxyethyl) methacrylamide lactates) and (N-(2-hydroxyethyl) acrylamide lactates).
- 7. (previously presented): The polymer of claim 1, wherein the polymer comprises at least one component selected from monolactates, dilactates, trilactates and tetralactates.
- 8. (previously presented): The polymer of claim 1, wherein the polymer is a copolymer of (a) at least one hydroxyalkyl (meth)acrylamide (lactate)<sub>n</sub>, wherein n represents the number of

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lactate units, n being at least 3, and (b) at least one hydroxyalkyl (meth)acrylamide (lactate)<sub>n</sub>, wherein n is 0, 1 or 2.

## 9. (canceled)

- 10. (previously presented): The polymer of claim 1, having a lower critical solution temperature before incubation below human body temperature and a different lower critical solution temperature after incubation above human body temperature.
- 11. (previously presented): A controlled release system comprising the temperature sensitive polymer of claim 1 and an active ingredient.
- 12. (previously presented): The controlled release system of claim 11, wherein the polymer is in the form of a polymeric micelle in which a hydrophilic block is present which hydrophilic block comprises a polyalkyleneglycol.
- 13. (previously presented): The controlled release system of claim 11, wherein the system is in the form of a hydrogel.
- 14. (previously presented): The controlled release system of claim 13, wherein the hydrogel is an ABA block copolymer, wherein block A is a temperature sensitive polymer of claim 1 and B is a hydrophilic polymer.
- 15. (previously presented): A targeting drug composition, comprising a drug and particles of the controlled release system of claim 11.
- 16. (previously presented): The targeting drug composition of claim 15, which further comprises a homing device.

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17. (new): The polymer of claim 2, wherein the bond is selected from esters, orthoesters, amides, carbonates, carbamates, anhydrides, ketals, and acetals.

- 18. (new): The polymer of claim 8, wherein under (a) n is an integer of 3 to 10.
- 19. (new): The controlled release system of claim 12, wherein the hydrophilic block comprises poly(ethyleneglycol).
  - 20. (new): The controlled release system of claim 14, wherein B is polyalkyleneglycol.
  - 21. (new): The controlled release system of claim 20, wherein B is poly(ethyleneglycol).
- 22. (new): The targeting drug composition of claim 15, wherein the particles have an average diameter of less than 200 nm.
- 23. (new): The targeting drug composition of claim 22, wherein the particles have an average diameter in the range of 10 to 100 nm.
  - 24. (new): The polymer of claim 8, wherein the mole % of (a) in (a) + (b) is 0.1%-99%.
  - 25. (new): The polymer of claim 24, wherein the mole % of (a) in (a) + (b) is 1%-50%.

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